

## CAPE MAY POINT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

January 12, 2022 – 10 am

Start Time: 10:00 a.m.

End Time: 11:42 a.m.

### **EC MEMBERS PRESENT**

(X) Sandy Allison

(X) Paula Massanari

(X) Barb Bassett, Chair

(X) Isabelle Neary

(X) Commissioner Catherine Busch

( ) Emelia Oleson

(X) Elise Geiger

(X) Carol Sowers

Others present:

Sunshine Law Statement – This meeting was properly advertised in the Cape May Star & Wave and duly posted at the Borough Municipal Building in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

On motion of PM, seconded by EG, the amended minutes of November 10, 2021 were approved. On motion of IN and seconded by PM the amended minutes of December 8, 2021, were approved.

### **2022 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

BB stated that we will continue to have meetings on the second Wednesday of each month throughout 2022. The schedule will be posted in the Borough Hall, on the Borough website and in the Star and Wave. We will be using zoom for the foreseeable future because of the ongoing pandemic.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

BB shared that Kelly Redington (KR) will be providing administrative support to her as chair of the EC.

### **REPORTS:**

- Lake Lily: [BB] BB reported that the lake is half frozen and that we are supporting additional ducks because Lighthouse Pond is completely frozen. The pathway looks good. CB has been in communication with Clean Flow to service the bubblers as part of preventative maintenance.
- Triangle Park: [BB] Nothing new to report.
- Beach: PM asked if we received the signs yet from the Marine Mammal Stranding Center. CB stated that she was informed that volunteers will be dropping the signs off and she would contact them again on status. Until we receive the signs, we can put something on the borough website and in an email newsletter to inform residents. PM will create an article for the website and text for the email newsletter.
- Green Team: BB stated that next month we will be going into detail on the Green Team since we have made it part of the EC, including our SNJ Bronze status since we are in the 18 month recertification window, and that we obtain points for a number of actions, like distributing the remaining reusable bags. It was decided by the group that the Shop Rite reusable bags can be donated to the Cape May Community Closet who is in need of bags for distributing food. The Cape May Point bags can be distributed several ways, including a potential Green Team table event by the post office, to community volunteers, and through the Civic Club.
- Commissioner Liaison: [CB]

-CB said she was previously tasked with looking into a mailing for the Borough in the spring to mention the new law prohibiting single use plastic bags on May 4, 2022. CB suggested that we could discuss next month with the green team, and perhaps it can tie into recycling. SA asked what percentage of homeowners receive the email newsletters, and KR stated that it ranges between 320 and 400 email addresses per group, which does not capture everyone across the community, which is why a mailing would be more likely to reach everyone.

-CB stated we had a significant snow storm last week and she was glad to see that public works and the park staff kept roads clear enough to make it possible for emergency vehicles to get through and for people to get in or out of the community. Park staff helped because we have a shared services agreement. A number of cedar trees split and several trees came down. Because of the cold, some homes had water lines break where people had not drained their outside shower lines.

-We have appointed a new borough engineer. Bruce Graham retired after 30 years and we are looking forward to working with Dale Foster who was a county engineer and has strong experience with grants. We also have a new grants consultant, so we are looking forward to new opportunities.

- Planning Board: [BB] Nothing to report.

#### **ON-GOING BUSINESS**

- Invasives in Pavilion Circle: [EG] EG provided a status update along with a map and before/after photographs. The EC discussed several opportunities for planting native trees and bushes to fill the green space without interfering with utility lines in the area and taking into consideration existing irrigation. The borough can facilitate the purchase of wholesale plants. EG has arranged for a walk of the area at 1:00pm Friday, January 14. BB thanked everyone for their hard work.
- Mayors' Monarch Pledge: [PM/IN/BB] We were able to successfully have our pledge approved from December; PM chose four action items for 2022 which she will send to everyone. The program requires a minimum of 3 actions; last year we did 9. Mayor Moffatt agreed that he would support the pledge again.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- NJ Audubon Update
- EC Informational Articles: PM asked if anyone had ideas for informational articles. She has already written some related to spotted lantern fly egg masses in winter, which could be timely. BB thinks these articles can be used by the Green Team for information and community education.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- EG is working on the newsletter for the Taxpayers Association, and we could include an article on the removal of invasive species at Pavilion Circle. The deadline is April 1. BB & EG will work together on this.
- CB shared that if you see public utility workers in the community working on telephone poles, they are preventatively treating them for termites.

**PUBLIC PORTION:** Beth Ann Rupp (BAR) shared appreciation for the work that the EC has done within the community. She asked about community composting, the Borough compiling a list of landscapers, and soliciting plant donations for the Civic Club Bazaar. BB explained that, as a small community, it is not something we have in place, but there are some residents who compost. CB explained the Borough, as a government agency, could not create lists or make recommendations on contractors, nor can it solicit donations. BB thanked BAR for her kind comments about the EC.

**ADJOURNMENT:** IN made the motion to adjourn at 11:42 AM. This was seconded by PM.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Kelly L. Redington, Deputy Clerk